

Summer 1988

West Virginia Libraries 1988 Vol.41 No.2

Yvonne Farley

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Recommended Citation

Farley, Yvonne, "West Virginia Libraries 1988 Vol.41 No.2" (1988). *West Virginia Libraries Newsletter*. Paper 183.
<http://mds.marshall.edu/wvlib/183>

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Summer 1988

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WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES



FRONT COVER

Permanent Collection, Huntington Museum of Art. PAIR OF CANDLESTICKS. "Rebecca at the Well" pattern. Colorless pressed glass, acid etched, pewter inserts. Bakewell, Pears & Co., Pittsburgh, PA, about 1877. Museum purchase.

For more information about the museum and its' art reference library, please see the inside story by Christopher Hatten.



West Virginia Libraries

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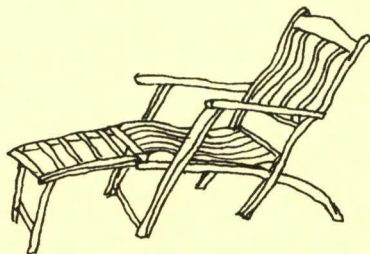
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WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES

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WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES is the official journal of the West Virginia Library Association. Viewpoints expressed are not necessarily the official viewpoint of WVLA.

A SUBSCRIPTION to the journal is included with membership dues. The subscription rate for non-members is \$15.00 per year. Some back issues are available at \$3.75 per issue. All back issues are available on microfilm from University Microforms International, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

MANUSCRIPTS are to be sent to the Editor for consideration. Notification of receipt will be sent immediately. Manuscripts should be submitted on 8½ X 11 inch paper, typed and double spaced. These will be returned if so noted. A very brief professional sketch should be appended to the manuscript. The journal reserves the right to make editorial changes. Photographs submitted should be black and white, but occasionally color will be accepted. Again, photographs will be returned if requested.

NEWS NOTES should be sent to the Editor.

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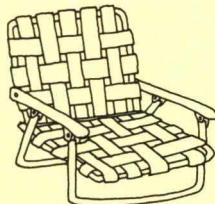
DEADLINE FOR MATERIALS

Copy Due

August 15, 1988

November 15, 1988

February 15, 1989



Publication Date

September 30, 1988

December 30, 1988

March 30, 1989

I hope that you take the time to read this issue of West Virginia Libraries because many people have put thought and effort into writing the articles which you will find. There are book reviews, articles about school library technology, the implications of computer technology, the concerns of an academic librarian and much more. Be sure to read the reports of the various section workshops to see what happened.

The WVLA executive board met in Parkersburg recently and I was interested in learning the many school libraries around the state are losing ground as funds are cut. The board directed president Jim Fields to write a letter expressing concern by WVLA over the elimination of school librarian positions in elementary schools. In Wood County schools, this year, the libraries had no book budgets. It is important that as limited resources are allocated we raise a voice to emphasize the importance of libraries on every level --- from elementary schools, to universities to the out-of-school public.

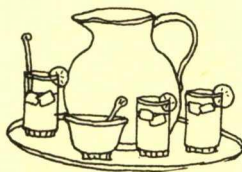
I was embarrassed to learn from Judy Rule that I had made a terrible typo in the ALA Councilor's Report in the Spring issue. I quoted Ms. Rule as writing that she "did not attend any Council meetings Sunday through Wednesday mornings". What a mistake! Well, she did and I apologize.

I rushed the last page of this issue to the printer long after the rest of the issue was put together. That was because there are two very important pieces of information there ---- to nominate people for the WVLA awards this year and to note that a group, The Appalachian Literary League, has published a poetry anthology which contains the work of many West Virginia writers.

Finally, I've asked writer/librarian Rick Wilson of Putnam County to head up a book review section for this publication. The emphasis will be on West Virginia and regional books. If you have ideas about books to review, please let him know. The deadline for the fall issue is August 31st.

Have a nice summer. I will be attending ALA in the "Big Easy" as it is being billed in all the journals. I will be attending a discussion group for editors of state library association journals and should come back with new ideas.

Yvonne Farley





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As I sit to write this page, it is with a certain sense of trepidation that late spring is here already and there is still much to do before October. However, thanks to the exceptional cooperation of the WVLA Board and its various committees, plans for the fall conference are coming together nicely. A personal thanks to those of you who have made suggestions for ways to improve our annual meetings.

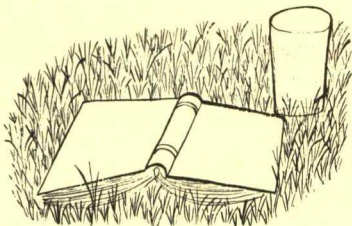
When conferees gather in Huntington this fall, I think they can expect to enjoy the hospitality and friendly atmosphere that have always characterized the city. We have scheduled a gala reception at the Huntington Museum of Art to give conferees an opportunity to socialize in a place of quiet elegance. While in the city, you must take the time to walk through the Riverfront Park, a short distance from the conference hotel. Also, the Cabell County Public Library downtown and the James E. Morrow Library on the Marshall University campus invite you to visit.

Since the last issue of West Virginia Libraries, I was privileged to attend "Legislative Day in Washington". There we met with West Virginia's members of the House of Representatives, Senators, and/or members of their staffs. I must say this whirlwind visit was exciting and productive. I can report that West Virginia's representatives in the Congress are real supporters of federal legislative issues that affect us as librarians. We need to keep thanking them for their concern at every opportunity.

Good reports have been coming in about the spring workshops of the various sections of WVLA. Section heads Pam Ford, Perri Pokorney, Sara Walker, Rebecca VanDerMeer and Leo Roe are to be complimented. It takes lots of planning, dedication and hard work to pull off a successful workshop. Pat yourselves on the back, folks.

Have a great summer!

-----Jim Fields
WVLA President



ON KNOWING AND BEING KNOWN

In April of this year the President of Concord College, Dr. Jerry Beasley, led a modern hegira of state educators and concerned citizens on a 150+ mile walk through communities in eight southern West Virginia counties. For Concord he hoped to raise scholarship funds; for southern West Virginia he hoped to raise the sites of many young people: be all you can. It's a dramatic gesture. In communities across the southern part of the state he's going to raise the cause of higher education, he's going to talk with businessmen about economic development, and how an educated citizenry is a requirement for those who would invest.

Across the country 35% of the U.S. population has completed four or more years of college, but in West Virginia only 19% have done so. Higher education's percentage of the State budget has declined from 18% to 12% in the last 12 years. The current national administration has indicated regularly the desire to reduce scholarship funds for college students, to reduce work-study opportunities. College presidents struggle to increase opportunities for needy students.

Within this context the college libraries find a need to communicate broadly what they are doing and what their opportunities are. Colleges and Universities in West Virginia have in recent years had budgets of \$180,000,000--reduced by 5% last year, and possibly reduced again by another 2½% this year. If college libraries had been funded at the recommended percentage of that budget they would have spent \$9,000,000 on materials, salaries, equipment and services. It is doubtful that the libraries had this to spend. What is almost of greater importance is how effectively the college and university libraries spent what they had. How did their expenditures serve to prepare new professionals for service in our state? When those new professionals are out in our West Virginia work force do they understand the place of information in our society? Have our college and university libraries been of such a model that the new graduates demand effective libraries in their local communities, demand more cooperation amongst libraries of all types, demand better information access for all our citizens. Or do they make any demands at all?

There must be a concern on the part of all of us that 25% of those entering first grade do not graduate from high school, that only 20% of high school graduates come on to college. West Virginia can not afford the "luxury" of an undeveloped talent pool. We ALL need to work on this. Recently a local teacher brought her fourth grade class to the Concord College library to see a different library, to develop a greater sense of what libraries are. Shamelessly I made the pitch: "When you come to Concord you will be able...." I did this knowing that I was taking the best advantage of the moment I could to put in the minds of these young people the idea that they will be going to college, that they will be incomplete until they have done all they can do.

We must all take joy in the mission of the public libraries of our state; we must none of us be satisfied that so few of our population have gone as far as they can go. We must all be pleased that there has been legislative success in the cause of public libraries; we must all be shamed that there are school libraries which are not spending fifty cents a student on library resources, that any college library lost 50% of its materials budget this year. We must all look for ways our resources can receive the broadest possible use amongst all our citizens.

The future holds an increase in the use of sophisticated technologies in libraries; how will we share those technologies to the benefit of all our citizens. At Concord, Bluefield and Cogs in Beckley CD-ROM units are in place with the ERIC data base. Users in Iaeger, or Pax, or Union could come and use these resources if they needed to, but the technology is

available for those of us in the colleges to perform some searches for remote users and to transmit the results of such searches by telefacsimile (or mail--that old standby). The technology is available for libraries to communicate via electronic mail, to make resources available more broadly.

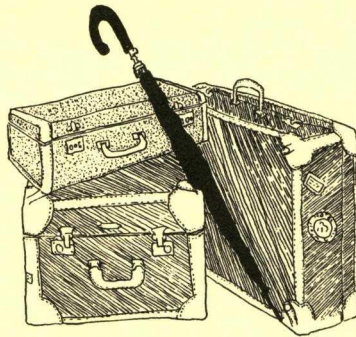
Certainly more formal communication among those using or about to use these technologies in libraries is an order of the day. The patron in the most remote area of the state is as entitled to access to information as the sophisticated researcher at our universities; that access is not now a reality.

It would be a reality if we coordinated our efforts a little, if we used monies targeted for developing library technology to install equipment permitting external access to our collections, if school systems made sure that each school had a computer with a modem allowing access to a state-wide data base, if public libraries and college libraries and university libraries installed telefacsimile equipment, if we all supported the concept of a learning society, of developing an information policy in our state (in each library) which facilitated the development of our greatest resource: our people.

In this context college and university libraries could support with enthusiasm the development of public library resources; public libraries could demand that school systems support the development school libraries which truly respond to the learning needs of young people; school libraries could reasonably expect college libraries and public libraries to provide strong back-up support. We would be known as supporting each other's basic missions. And we would regularly go to each other's funding sources for continuing and increasing financial support of all libraries.

Well, that's my opinion.

Tom Brown



STATE PHILOSOPHER

A Personal Response to The Closing of the American Mind, After Philosophy: End or Transformation, The Return of Grand Theory in the Human Sciences, and several other books including The Last Intellectuals and the American classic, Anti-intellectualism in American Life.

By Stephen L. Fesenmaier

To begin, there have been incredible pressures on this country at least since 1917 to move to the Right. Hitler's version of totalitarianism was as much a reaction to the success of Lenin as it was to the Versailles Peace. During the last 20 years, I have met many of the Communist world's leading filmmakers and even helped Romania's leading film director, Mahai Jacob and his wife, defect. Unfortunately, I can count on one hand the number of Americans I have ever met who have IN ANY TRUE SENSE OF THE WORD learned first hand the horrors of the far left, Communistic world. This is all in preamble to my attack on the rash of rightist publications concerning the most absurd statement ever made about the American mind -- namely that it is NOW beginning to close...after 20 years of "Hippie culture". The American mind has ALWAYS been closed, believing that God was in direct contact, creating thru America "the New Israel". Compare the current "Biblical mind" of South Africa to our own...luckily for us, we HAD OUR CIVIL WAR...a war which helped liberate NOT ONLY ALL AMERICANS, BLACK AND WHITE, BUT ALL HUMANS EVERYWHERE, ending after thousands of years the entire concept of SLAVERY.

Allan Bloom's book is extremely poorly written and totally insane point by point, issue by issue. To actually blame the current massive cultural problems that do exist in our late-capitalistic culture on German philosophers and the handful of hippies who dared challenge the administration at Cornell University is literally BEYOND BELIEF - as is the fact that our president and his first lady have used super-simple astrology to make world class decisions! Recent books such as THE TRIAL OF SOCRATES, by one of our most brilliant reporters, I.F. Stone, demonstrate that from virtually the beginning of Western culture, the Right has been willing to commit suicide (like Hitler and Socrates) rather than face the reality of people DEMANDING THEIR MOST BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS! Bloom, Secretary of Education William Bennett, and many other so-called "public intellectuals" are demonstrating a similar denial by attacking the extremely exciting contemporary intellectual world. Even the NY Times, in a cover magazine story on the "tyranny of the Yale critics," ABSOLUTELY REFUSES TO ADMIT THAT AFTER 2,500 years of Platonic totalitarianism (see Karl Popper's masterful The Open Society and its Enemies for the single best attack of the fascist left - Marx and Hegel.) The human race is finally getting a little breathing room - and revolting against the super-racism (and sexism) and all the other forms of believing that one's own group is "the best" which began in the supposed Golden Age of Athens.

The fact is that there are several new books out now which reveal the incredible SUCCESS, the unbelievable FREEDOM that philosophers are finally finding after the work of such "Martin Luthers of the mind" as Michel Foucault and P.K. Feyerabend and perhaps the greatest living philosopher now in the world, University of Virginia master Richard Rorty. Recent biographies of such thinkers as William James and many others are finally revealing that after more than 2,500 years of FEAR OF CHANGE, our best thinkers are accepting the ancient statement that "one never steps into the same river twice." Feyerabend himself has written that there is no longer a need for boring and dead philosophy of science, and that his new motto is, "Let's Make More Movies." Finally with such recent inventions as desktop publishing, small independent film-making equipment (fully revealed in WV by perhaps the single best in America now, by John Sayles, who made his first masterpiece, THE RETURN OF THE SECAUCUS 7, for \$40,000!), and many, many other changes in access to the true gold of all cultures, INFORMATION! Of course, we no longer have great novelists like Hemingway -- we have filmmakers like Coppola and writers like Bukowski.

State Philosopher, Continued

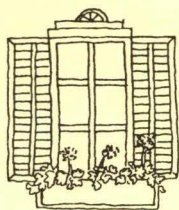
THE EMPIRES OF THE SENSE ARE AT LAST OPENING UP, to all 5 billion humans! They will learn like they have through such 16mm films as those made about the Holocaust, about what THE RULING GROUPS HAVE REALLY BEEN UP TO...the West is now experiencing its own "glasnost"! Bloom is the perfect two-bit philosopher for the Reagan Revolution people to promote, now that the total failure is appearing nightly on the news. (I wonder how many of the Mortimer Adler "100 Greatest Books" Reagan has ever read - or any of his cabinet? Going by published summer reading lists of the CEOs of our top corporations, I greatly suspect that the "gentlemanly C" made famous by various past presidents is an indication of just how much manure is being piled up!)

Philosophy and thinking is more widespread now than ever! People are ASKING THEMSELVES WHAT THEIR ELECTED OFFICIALS ARE REALLY DOING and even what Wall Street is trying to sell them! The lies of the last 8 years cannot hide the collapse of the most corrupt administration since U.S. Grant.

The fact of the matter is that everyone in America is now looking for a scapegoat to explain the "collapse" of the American economy - something which motivated almost everything that had happened in Hitler's Germany - and the fact is that in both this country and in Germany, various forms of hatred have been used to explain why wars were lost. In Germany, the Jews were used by Hitler and his many supporters to explain the disaster of losing World War I. Now peaceniks, hippies, and many, many other anti-war groups are being used to explain "the closing of the American mind." Bloom is America's 10th rate Heidegger. The super-obvious sources of America's economic and moral collapse during the post WW II era can be traced back to the rejection of the real values of the American enlightenment by subsequent Puritans, Pioneers, and Politicians who have always found the American people willing to believe their nonsense. The surveys frequently reporting the near-Third World quality of American education - and many other American institutions such as our care of new borns and sex education programs. Let's just admit that Americans have never valued serious thinking, serious art, serious philosophy. Now that the more than 500,000 European intellectuals forced to move to our shores by Hitler have died or retired, leaving us to resume the course we were on prior to the Stock Market Crash in 1929, but this time with such dangers as super-drug problems, super-federal deficits, super-crime to solve. It is sad to say that many, many Americans are expecting some sort of invention like SUPERMAN (Rambo?) to solve our problems...and is that superman really Jesus? Is that why so many Americans are PRAYING for the end of the world? Why can't we learn to use WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN US -- our minds -- to solve our almost totally self-induced problems?

STEVE FESENMAIER is the head of Film Services at the West Virginia Library Commission. He has a magna cum laude degree in philosophy from the University of Minnesota (1971) and also did graduate work for two years, finishing all course work for a Masters. He was lucky enough to have studied with Prof. Herbert Feigl, the last living member of the Vienna Circle. He also holds the masters degree in library science.





THE INFORMATION REVOLUTION AND THE LIBRARY COMMUNITY: THE GOOD AND BAD

By Dr. Metro Voloshin

The economic forces that have played such a deterministic role in the unfolding of history and the evolution of western civilization, more often than not, found their catalyst in technological innovations. This was realized over a hundred years ago in regard to the growth of large-scale industry in 19th century England, when Marx wrote "the starting point of large-scale industry is the revolution in the instruments of labour, and this attains its most highly developed form in the organized system of machinery in the factory." (Capital vol. I, p. 517). This dual consideration of the importance of technology in itself, as well as the necessity of its application in an organized rational fashion within the economic framework of society, remains germane to any assessment of the progress, direction and potential of the current information revolution, both for the world as a whole and the library profession in particular.

This article will commence with a discussion of important technological innovations and the tendencies generated by them within the social and economic fabric of society, followed by a description of their application within the library community, and concluding with some personal observations regarding the future of information technology.

What the steam engine was to the germination of the Industrial Revolution, the computer is proving to be to the information technology revolution. In addition to their amazing computational properties, the current generation of machines, whether mainframe, minis or micros, evince a sophisticated array of retrieval, storage and dispersal capabilities, allowing them to manipulate information in new ways. In a society that has been traditionally dependent on the printed medium, the advent of computer technology has had far-reaching ramifications. Now information can not only be stored, retrieved and communicated in enormous quantities and at phenomenal speeds, but it can be manipulated in varied and sundry ways. The invention of powerful, cheap, mass-produced micro-chips spawned a poliferation of new technologies, from pocket calculators, wrist-watches and cameras to international telecommunications systems.

Of paramount importance to our discussion is the development of the powerful, inexpensive micro- or personal computer (PC), which has become a late 20th century electronic Aladdin's lamp within the reach of an evergrowing portion of the populace. As an automatic processor of information, the PC can now be found in a wide variety of environments, throughout both the private and the public sectors. The continuing improvements in the processing speed and memory capacity of the hardware, coupled with the expansion of software functions have allowed the computer to attack an ever widening sphere of activities. Closely related to this have been the current advances in the telecommunications field involving new and/or expanded uses of telephone lines, cables, fiber optics and microwave links. This, in turn, has acted as a stim-

ulus for the development of national and international communication networks which will gradually spawn a web of increased resource sharing.

A symbiotic relationship has arisen between information itself and the technical means of collecting, manipulating, preserving and dispersing it. The ever increasing poliferation of information and the information processing technology act as a cross stimulus to each other, fostering a self-generating upward spiral of growth. One manifestation of this has been the expansion of databases in industry, government, academia etc. Closely tied to the increasing cost-effectiveness of information technology is the growing tendency to decentralize functions, which should have a manifold impact on a wide variety of economic, political and social structures, i.e. the organization of work in the workplace or office.

Thus, a number of the tendencies illustrated above, such as the cheapening of information technology, its increased handling and storage capabilities as well as speed, along with the telecommunications innovations which promote increased resource sharing and decentralization, are all evident in the current trends in the library and infomration profession. Utilizing these tendencies as guidelines, we will attempt an analysis of the current library environment.

In the library environment, as in so many others, the ready availability of the microcomputer has been a pivotal point. With the fall in prices and the increase of computing power, more and more libraries have opted for micocomputers to perform a wide range of functions. In-library automated systems are gradually being implemented in a growing number of institutions. When fully installed, these automated, integrated systems will be able to perform not only the primary library functions such as circulation, cataloging, reference acquisitions, interlibrary loan and collection development, but also administrative activities such as budgeting, billing, payroll, etc. Performing these functions with a microcomputer saves the librarians time and effort and when tied via sophisticated telecommunications to outside sources, as is the case with online cataloging and interlibrary loan, enables extensive resource sharing. The use of microcomputers also facilitates the storage as well as the transferral of large quantities of data by means of magnetic tape, softdisks, harddisks, or most importantly for the future, the compact disc (CD-ROM). In-library automated systems are also getting the patrons directly involved, through online public access catalogs such as the LS 2000. As more and more libraries eliminate their card catalogs, patrons will have to rely increasingly on a keyboard and a VDT to access library materials. The younger generation will have conspicuously fewer problems with this transition than will their elders.

The advent of the inexpensive microcomputer has also promoted extensive resource sharing on all levels among individual libraries, among libraries in a network or consortium, and between bibliographic utilities and libraries. One of the predominant means of resource sharing is access to an online database. The reliance on large, centralized, multitype and multifunctional utilities in the 1970s has given way to decentralized local systems in the 1980s, where data can be accessed not only from big bibliographic utilities like OCLC, but also from private vendors or diversified regional networks with utility functions. In-house microcomputers with their growing storage capabilities are

permitting increasing numbers of libraries to establish their own databases.

Technological advancement, along with the tight money situation of the 1980s, has gone a long way to further the trend toward diversification in library networking. Both national utilities, as well as regional and state networks, have diversified their functions to be of the widest service to their member libraries. One pioneer project, which currently involves the utilities, is the development of the Linked Systems Project (LSP), which addresses the issue of implementing standards and protocols to make computer to computer interface possible between dissimilar systems. The eventual goal is to enable linking on all levels between utilities, networks, and local systems. It is too soon to tell if related technologies, such as videotext and telefacsimile, will have a prominent role to play in future library development. The potential, for atleast telefacsimile, seems promising. Telefacsimile's ability to instantaneously relay full printed pages via the telephone line has prodigious implications for interlibrary lending.

The application of artificial intelligence in the form of expert systems has the ability to supplement human expertise and in some cases, the potential to replace it. A computer-based program, the expert system is capable of learning, reasoning and executing tasks autonomous of human guidance. Currently utilized in a wide diversity of fields, the library community is finding it of great value as an aid in online searching, facilitating and simplifying end-user search strategies.

Much of the discussion to this point has emphasized the positive impact of the information technology revolution on the library community, but its negative aspects should not be overlooked. The bottom line for the implementation of many of these innovations is their cost-effectiveness. A case in point is the current waning of videotext because of its inability to compete for the consumer market. Also at issue with the creation of large public and private databases and the commercialization of information, is the question of data ownership and copyright. The dichotomy of this situation is that the greater the flow of information in a society, the more valuable and profitable it becomes, therefore the more restrictions put on its movement.

But the problem of the cost-effectiveness of technology and the ownership of information pales before one overwhelming, incontrovertible fact implicit in an information technology revolution occurring in a modern capitalistic society. This is the proclivity of technology to further erode the already disintegrating fabric of human society, magnifying the current woeful level of personal and cultural alienation arising out of the socio-economic relationships inherent in that society. Intimations of just an eventuality are pervasive. Marx, who had introduced the concept of alienation in his discussion of capitalistic production, described it as the gradual transformation of humans into thing-like beings which do not behave in a human way. If you doubt the relevancy of that assessment, reflect upon it the next time you "interface" with someone.

But much graver than the fear of a futuristic society of humanized machines and dehumanized people is the very real danger that the automation and state of the art technology will widen the gulf between the rich and the poor, the controllers and the controlled, the oppressors and the oppressed in this

world. The ramifications for the workforce in this country reverberate globally as a warning that technology does not flourish in a vacuum, but that its very nature and application have a tendency to reflect and magnify both the positive and negative aspects of the society in which it is applied.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Metro Voloshin holds the M.S.L.S. degree from the University of Kentucky in Lexington as well as a Ph.D. in Musicology from that institution. He is currently a reference librarian at the Lexington Public Library.

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HUNTINGTON MUSEUM OF ART LIBRARY

By Christopher Hatten
Librarian



The Library of the Huntington Museum of Art provides materials and library assistance for research in the fine and decorative arts. Housed in a building designed by the renowned architect Walter Gropius, the Library currently operates as a non-circulating research facility. The strengths of the Library's holdings parallel those of the Museum's permanent collection, with special emphases in the areas of American art, English silver, firearms, contemporary prints and glass.

In addition to providing information necessary to document the Museum's collections, the Library furnishes bibliographies and other resource material on featured exhibitions and offers assistance to the public by providing information relating to their personal collections and areas of interest. A recent change which boosted the librarian's position to full-time status has allowed a much more consistent and expanded offering of services. Plans for the future include an on-line catalog and subsequent networking with other libraries within the state, creation of circulating visual resource collections for use by area teachers, and expanded archival treatment of both Museum records and historical materials relating to the arts of the area.

FANCY BLOWN GLASS

At right are several items from the Museum's permanent collection.

MANTLE ORNAMENT [Shaped like a powder horn]. Red, white and blue pull-up decoration, opal base. Attributed to Wheeling, WV about 1840-1870. Museum purchase, funds provided by Mr. & Mrs. John Chafin.

COVERED SUGAR BOWL. Cased cobalt over opal glass. Attributed to Bakewell, Pears & Co., Pittsburgh, PA, 1840-1850. Museum purchase.

VASE. Opal glass with blue pull-up decoration. Pittsburgh/Wheeling area, about 1840-1870. Museum purchase, funds provided by the Eighth annual Benefit Antiques Show.

On page 16, DECANTER AND TUMBLER. Colorless blown glass, molded ribs, engraved wreath motif on decanter. U.S. possibly midwestern, about 1820-1840. Gift of Lowell Innes in memory of Dr. E.R. Eller.







Expand Your Magazine Collection Inexpensively While Gaining
An Automated Index System

By Carl Bowman
Media Center Director
Wheeling Park High School

We recently discovered how to get more than 60 magazines for our high school library at a cost that would usually cover only about 20 subscriptions. We subscribed to TOM, a relatively new automated microfilm index to more than 100 magazines, produced by Information Access Company. As part of the TOM package we receive more than 60 of those same magazines on microfiche.

Our purpose in adding TOM to our library was to have an index to all of the magazines which students are most likely to use in their research. The index is updated monthly with a fully cumulated reel of microfilm covering the most recent issues as well as indexing for the past five years. The full text of the magazines on microfiche was a welcome bonus. The microfiche adds many new titles to our periodical collections and we're particularly pleased to have access to articles from many computer magazines. We'll be adding a computer lab to our Media Center shortly, so I'm sure that the computer titles will receive regular reference as our students learn more about computers.

TOM received a terrific workout in November and December as our intermediate and advanced students prepared research papers which draw upon timely sources such as magazines. In fact, TOM has become one of the most highly used reference aids in the Media Center. It is a one source index for magazines with all articles on a specific subject listed in date order from the most recent to citations to material published up to five years ago. To conduct a similar search in Reader's Guide, for instance, a student would have to refer to five or six volumes.

TOM is an easy-to-use reference source. Its automated advance and rewind with citations displayed on a video-like screen appeals to students. I cover TOM in my classroom presentation on the media center reference resources that I make to the junior classes and we demonstrate TOM during the media center orientation for sophomores. Very little additional instruction is needed.

To use TOM, the student:

- (1) Looks up a topic in the microfilm index on the IAC-supplied automated reader;
- (2) Jots down the magazine title and date or the microfiche code number of relevant articles; and
- (3) Requests a print copy of the magazine or selects the appropriate microfiche and reads the article or prints it out for future reference.

We are extremely fortunate at Wheeling Park High School to have a large and very modern media center with excellent resources for our 1650 students. Our school board was very far-sighted when our school was constructed in 1976 to have a media center designed that would support changing and growing reference needs.

Our administration has also been very supportive in providing the reference resources we need to maintain an exemplary library for our students. At \$1080 for the annual subscription, TOM is not expensive. However, the reference system is easily justified by the microfiche coverage alone. To obtain subscriptions to the more than 60 publications provided on microfiche would cost two to three times the price of the whole TOM system.

CARL R. BOWMAN was born and reared around Greensburg, Pennsylvania and educated in the Hempfield area school system. His undergraduate degree is in Forestry from West Virginia University (1965) and his Master's degree (1976) is from the same institution in Education with an emphasis on library science. He currently holds a Masters plus 30 classification. Since 1980 he has been the Media Center Director at Wheeling Park. Other activities include being assistant head track coach, head statistician for the high school basketball team, and a member of the WVSSAC State Cross Country Committee.

LIBRARIES INVITED TO JOIN "READASaurus" PROMOTION

Libraries and their young readers are invited to participate in the "Summer of the Readasaurus" reading promotion sponsored by Reading Is Fundamental and ABC/PBS "Youth Plus".

A reproducible rules sheet is available free by sending a stamped self-addressed business envelop to the ALA Public Information Office, 50 E. Huron, Chicago, IL 60611. The promotion offers a prize drawing for children ages 5-12 who enter a postcard with the titles of three books read during May, June, July or August 1988.

The grand prize consists of a three day trip for the winner with his or her parents, an IBM personal computer for the winner and his or her library and an IBM Writing to Read laboratory for the winner's school. Other prizes include encyclopedia, gift certificates, magazine subscriptions, books and stickers.

ALA HOSTS ALL-CONFERENCE RECEPTION AT RIVERGATE CENTER

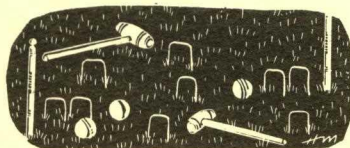
Like to experience the thrill of Mardi Gras but think July is too late? Not this year, thanks to the American Library Association's "ALAbash" Conference Reception, Sat., July 9, 6:15-8 p.m. at the Rivergate Center.

Conference goers will take part in a private Mardi Gras parade as it rolls through the expansive, air-conditioned Rivergate, complete with elaborately costumed maskers who will toss tricketts and doubloons to the crowd from their colorfully decorated floats.

Sponsored by Ingram Library Services Inc., the New Orleans Conference Local Arrangements Committee and the American Library Association, the conference reception at Rivergate is just across the street from the Hilton and the Convention Center.

SHARON A. HOGAN ELECTED TO ALA EXECUTIVE BOARD

Sharon A. Hogan, director of libraries, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, has been elected to the ALA Executive Board for the term 1988 to 1992. The ALA Executive Board consists of the officers of the association, the immediate past president and eight members elected by the ALA Council from its membership. It serves as the management board of ALA.



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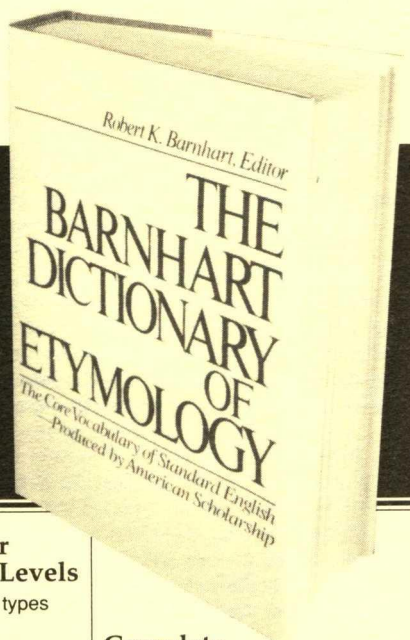
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ALA LEGISLATIVE DAY - APRIL 19

by

Harold B. Shill

Federal Relations Coordinator

Seven WVLA representatives visited Congressional offices in Washington April 19, ALA's annual Legislative Day. The West Virginia group was part of a contingent of approximately 600 librarians and library supporters converging on Capitol Hill from most of the 50 states.

The WVLA group began its day with an 8:15 a.m. briefing in the Dirksen Senate Office Building. Reports on the status of legislation and the budgetary process for Fiscal Year 1989 were given by ALA Washington Office personnel, Congressional committee staff members, and representatives of several education lobby groups. Packets of information on Federal legislative issues and the West Virginia impact of national programs and policies were distributed to participants at the conclusion of that meeting.

Next, the group took a 15-minute walk across Capitol Hill to the House of Representatives' side, where a meeting with Rep. Nick Rahall and legislative aide Robin Gage began promptly at 10:15 a.m. Rep. Rahall listened attentively to the group's concerns, asked several questions and offered his assistance on several matters, including applications for Higher Education Act Title II-D grants. An ALA/WVLA information packet was given to Mr. Rahall, and the meeting concluded with the presentation of a "Piece It Together at the Library" sweatshirt to the Congressman by Judy Rule.

Following the Rahall visit, the WVLA delegation walked to the Longworth House Office Building next door to meet with Rep. Bob Wise. The group began meeting with legislative aide Roddy Young, then was joined in mid-presentation by Rep. Wise. The 3rd District Congressman thanked the group for coming, displayed real concern over the condition of libraries in West Virginia, and noted that West Virginia's Federal and State officials are starting to work together rather than separately to address the State's needs. He also showed real delight over the gift of a sweatshirt.

The next visit on the agenda was with Rep. Harley O. Staggers, Jr., and legislative aide Stuart Durst. As in previous visits, the group shared data about the current state of West Virginia's school, public and academic libraries and the impact of a wide range of Federal policies--postal subsidies, tele-communications, LSCA, HEA, ECIA Chapter 2, Library of Congress funding, etc. --- upon them. The group discussed the Congressman's Targeted Fiscal Assistance for Local Communities Act (H.R. 3363), a proposal to provide a need-based revenue-sharing system to replace the now-defunct General Revenue-Sharing Program. Rep. Staggers asked the library community to support this bill, noting that it could free local funding now used for other purposes to support public libraries. He and Durst both expressed dismay over the lack of local funding for the Mineral County Public Library in his hometown, Keyser.

Following a brief coffee break, the WVLA group returned to the Cannon House Office Building for a meeting with Rep. Alan B. Mollohan, who turned out to be in West Virginia that day. A hurriedly-arranged meeting followed with aide Meg Phillips, who expressed great interest in the librarians' concerns and expressed her apologies for the Congressman's absence. Phillips asked the group to find out when House Members would be able to directly access the Library of Congress card catalog from their offices, and a quick response was promised. As in previous offices, a sweatshirt was presented and received cordially.

After a welcome lunch break in the Madison Building Cafeteria of the Library of Congress, to which the group had been guided through underground corridors by Ms. Phillips, the WVLA contingent trekked back across Capitol Hill to visit Sen. Jay Rockefeller's office in the Hart Building. An appointment problem had occurred here also, and a meeting with aide Steve Boehm was arranged quickly while Sen. Rockefeller attended hearings of the Senate Finance Committee. Like earlier visits, the welcome here was also friendly and receptive.

Finally, the WVLA delegated descended four floors in the Hart Building elevators for a meeting with Carol Mitchell, Sen. Robert C. Byrd's education assistant. As usual, the meeting with Ms. Mitchell was one of the highlights of the day. After assuring the group that the Senator would almost certainly be wearing the sweatshirt while performing outdoor chores, Ms. Mitchell heard the group's concerns attentively and asked some very insightful questions. The state of the education budget, the Senator's decision to step down as Majority Leader, and several other issues were also discussed in depth by a very knowledgeable and experienced legislative aide. A meeting with Sen. Byrd was not possible due to pending floor action.

The day concluded with a festive reception in the Rayburn House Office Building. Rep. Rahall attended the reception, as did Stuart Durst from the Staggers office. The WVLA delegation leader was also pulled away from the reception for a last-minute update on the status of NTIS anti-privatization legislation in the office of the House Science, Research and Technology Subcommittee's majority counsel. The reception lasted well past its scheduled concluding time of 7:00 p.m.

West Virginia was ably represented at ALA Legislative Day by WVLA President Jim Fields, Judy Rule, Tom Brown, Lee Brown, Jean Orr, Carolyn Watson and Federal Relations Coordinator Hal Shill. Sweatshirts were provided by Peggy Bias, chair of the WVLA Marketing Committee. Massive printouts on public library support were provided by Shirley Smith of the West Virginia Library Commission.

Group participants expressed a generally high level of satisfaction with Legislative Day despite the physical demands imposed by an early start, three walking trips across Capitol Hill, and a real lack of time for rest between meetings. The WVLA delegation was greeted interestedly and sympathetically in all six Congressional offices, including the two where appointment problems had occurred. Travel expenses up to \$75 were covered for several participants from the WVLA Federal Relations Coordinator's budget.

SPOTLIGHT ON PR SELA 1988

Members of SELA are invited to participate in competition for awards which will be presented for 1987-1988 print media in five categories: Annual reports, Newsletters, Filers/brochures, Calendars of Events, and Bookmarks/Bibliographies.

This competition is sponsored by the Public Relations Committee of the Southeastern Library Association. Send five copies of each entry to Judy McClendon, Richland County Public Library, 1400 Sumter St., Columbia, South Carolina 29201. The deadline has been extended. Entries must be received by July 15, 1988. Winners will be announced at the 1988 Biennium in Norfolk.

In addition, the spotlight on PR will continue in Norfolk with a Swap 'N Shop. Please send 50 copies each of your best promotional materials to Mary Mayer-Hennelly, Norfolk Public Library, 301 East City Hall Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23510. Mark: Hold for Swap 'N Shop. Deadline: Oct. 15th.

SPRING WORKSHOP HELD AT CEDAR LAKES FOR
SPECIAL LIBRARIES, JMRT AND PUBLIC SECTIONS



This year the spring workshop was a combined effort of the Special Library, Public and JMRT sections of WVLA. New concepts were introduced this year such as changing the event to a Friday-Saturday (to encourage more people to attend) and changing locations (to keep fees down). The lovely surroundings of Cedar Lakes were very accommodating and for once, the weather actually cooperated.

The workshop kicked off with a computer ideas exchange in which people shared various programs with each other. Dave Shouldis informed us of the growing collection of special interest videos at the WVLC. Special Libraries sponsored a very relaxing stress-management program. After a good meal, we were thoroughly entertained by the songs and poems of nationally renowned Barry Louis Polisar. Although the pool party fell through, we did join together for an evening of discussions and walking around the camp. Some of us joined in on a bonfire sponsored by another group using the Cedar Lakes complex.

On Saturday, Danny McMillion took the problem of her co-presenter not being able to show up in stride and with the last minute help of several of those attending, presented a quite informative program on booktalks for young adults. Danny's talents and her ability to overcome obstacles in her way are greatly appreciated, as are the assistance of those people who helped in the presentation. Eddy Harbert got us singing, laughing and playing musical games for his presentation on using music with children. And, Genny Goode shared her talents with us again on two topics--the first as moderator for an informal exchange and again after lunch trying to install a positive attitude in ourselves when it comes to our work.

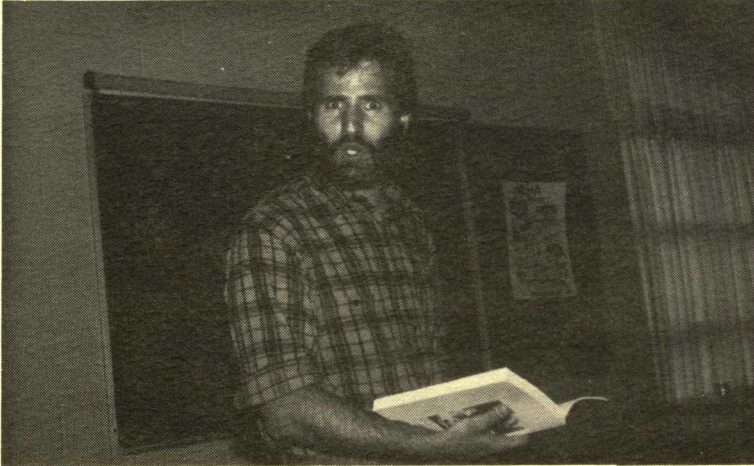


Judy Browning, librarian at Chapmansville, deals Black Jack in a skit which illustrated a unique summer reading program for young adults.

Spring Workshop at Cedar Lakes, Continued

I believe those attending had a good time and hopefully learned something they could use when they returned to their libraries. The people at Cedar Lakes were wonderful to work with, bending over backwards to help us with any requests we had. I would also like to thank Rebecca VaDeMeer and Sara Walker, who also co-sponsored the workshop, for all their hard work and energy, without which the workshop would not have been so successful. Unless you've conducted a workshop, you have no idea how much time and work goes into two days of meetings. I certainly appreciate having such qualified people working with me on this.

---Leo Roe, Public Library Section Chairperson



Those who attended the spring workshop at Cedar Lakes were treated to an outstanding program by children's composer and writer, Barry Polisar, who read and sang some of his creations and talked about his career. (Above) Danny McMillion of Kanawha County, presented a workshop on booktalking and reading programs for young adults. (Below)





COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SECTION

SPRING WORKSHOP

By Pam Ford, Chair

Academic librarians from nine institutions joined together for a spring workshop entitled "Research, Writing and Publishing for Academic Librarians" on May 19th in the Drain-Jordan Library on the campus of West Virginia State College.

We were warmly welcomed to the West Virginia State College campus by their new president, Dr. Hazo Carter. During the morning session the group was addressed by Dennis Carrigan, Assistant Dean of the College of Library and Information Science, University of Kentucky and Dr. Danny Fulks, Professor, College of Education, Marshall University. Both speakers shared their insights and experiences with research and writing, giving the group many helpful hints that will make our efforts at writing easier. Reasons for writing, types of articles to write, to which journals should we submit articles, and how to decide on article topics were all discussed. Both speakers are well published authors who had very different ideas on writing that complemented each other.

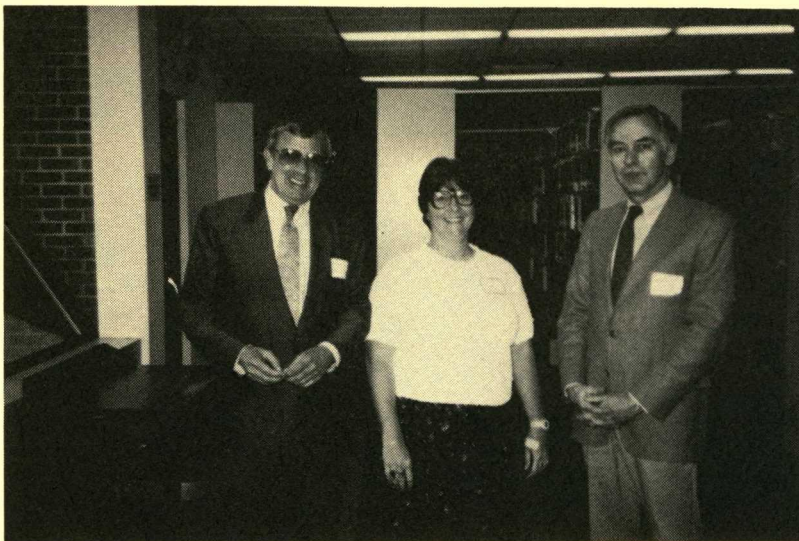
During the break for lunch, many of the group took advantage of an opportunity to tour the Satellite Uplink System which is housed at West Virginia State College and enables other institutions to televise classroom sessions around the state.

The afternoon session was spent hearing presentations from a panel of our own colleagues who shared their personal experiences in order to encourage others to try research and writing -- or to at least think about doing so. The panel consisted of Carroll Wilkinson, West Virginia University; Dawn D. Puglisi, Marshall University and Harold B. Shill, West Virginia University. Both sessions concluded with lively and interesting question and answer periods.

The group learned that writing does take a lot of time, effort and sacrifice, but there are many rewards, both personal and professional. The sessions led those in attendance to think about where research and writing does or should fit into our professional lives. Do we have an obligation to the profession to share our ideas and research? Can we find the time in an already impossible schedule to try writing an article? Will there ever be a time that academic librarians will be given release time to pursue such professional endeavors? These were some of the questions that occurred to us. I kept finding myself thinking, "What if I can't write an article? What if I'm just not capable?" I answered myself with, "You'll never know until you try." So I will try and if I succeed, I will be very proud of myself; and if I don't succeed, I will go back to being the best cataloger I know how to be.

The main thing I would like to see the membership do after this workshop is to stop and seriously think about writing and make a well-thought-out decision whether to try or not. I don't believe all of us will decide to involve ourselves in writing, but I do hope we'll all encourage those of us who do so decide. Carroll Wilkinson pointed out during the meeting that it is important to be able to share your writing and experiences. So let's all stand by each other in whatever professional endeavors we undertake.

The day ended with a general business meeting and the all important refreshments and sharing of ideas and concerns before we all got into our cars and headed home.



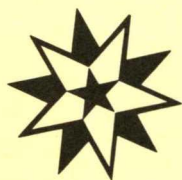
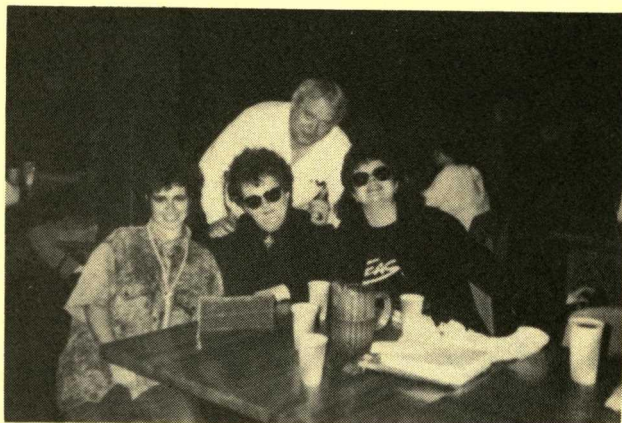
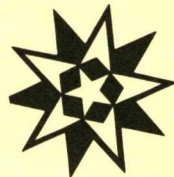
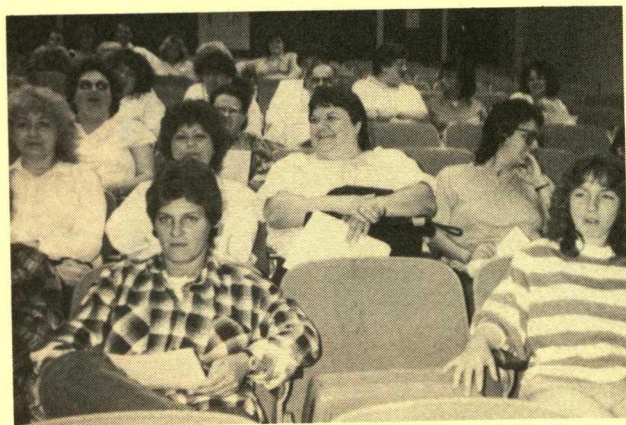
(Above) Speakers for the College and University Section's Spring Workshop are shown above with the section chair, Pam Ford. (left to right: Dr. Danny Fulks, Marshall University Professor, Pamela Ford and Dennis Carrigan, Asst. Dean of the College of Library and Information Science, University of Kentucky at Lexington.

(Below) A panel discussion was held to encourage college and university librarians to try research and writing. (Left to right) Carroll Wilkinson, Dawn Puglisi, Hal Shill and Pam Ford.



MARSHALL LIBRARY SKILLS INSTITUTE

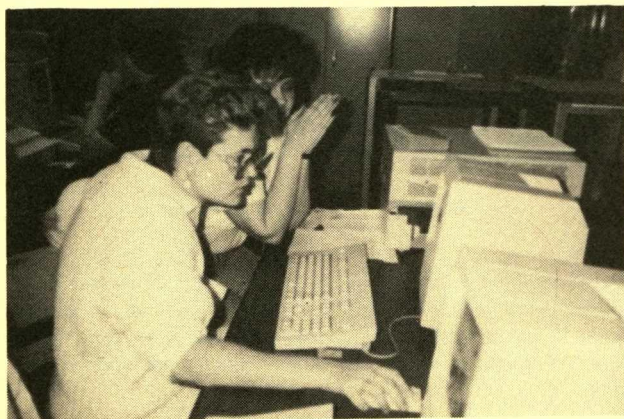
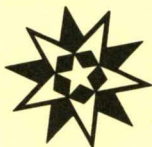
Every spring the state library commission offers a library skills institute at Marshall University for college credit. This year's selection of courses included the introductory one in library management, reference, audiovisual production, children's literature, and West Virginia Source materials.



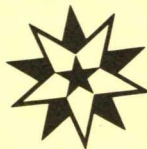
Shown above are some librarians from who knows where: (left to right) Kay Daniels from Marsh Fork, Judy Wallen, Beckley and Connie Gordon of Wheeling. Graduate student John Fickle is shown in the back.

MARSHALL, Continued

At right, "The Return of the Educational Media Players".

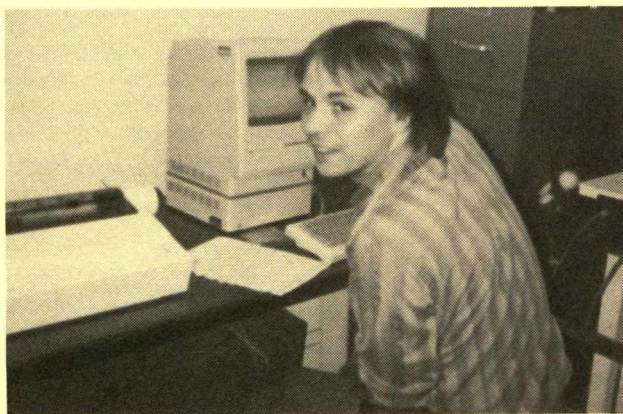


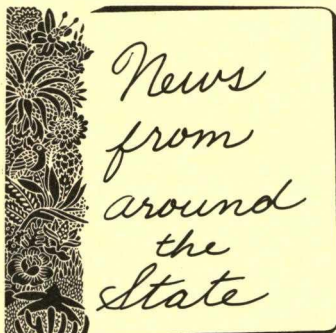
Vickie Sequin, Media Technician at the Marshall University Learning Resource Center instructs Connie Gordon of Wheeling on the computer.



Rick Wilson of Putnam County is extremely busy at the MacIntosh used in the Production of AudioVisual Aids class.

(All photos by Judy Wallen)





WYOMING COUNTY LIBRARY RECEIVES ARC LITERACY GRANT

The Wyoming County Library System has received a grant of \$2377 to begin an adult literacy program in Wyoming County. Each library in the county will use the money to purchase books for adult beginning readers, and the libraries in Mullens and Oceana will be receiving computer programs which can be used by adult beginning readers to help them practice reading skills.

Wyoming County is one of three counties in the state that does not, at present, have an active adult literacy program. We hope that this grant will change that.

The West Virginia Dept. of Education estimates that 35 percent of the population over 16 is undereducated and that 15 percent are functionally illiterate, that is, they cannot read or write well enough to be able to follow safety warnings, use equipment repair manuals, fill out job applications, make out a check, write even a short note, read directions on medicine labels or read newspapers for information.

The county does have an active adult education program, but the literacy program will be staffed by volunteers who after attending the literacy training session will work with adults on a one to one basis. The program needs volunteers.

---Mary Browder, Director of Libraries

KIDS' GARDENING PROJECT IN CABELL COUNTY

Kids in grades 1-6 will have fun this summer planting and tending their very own tiny garden. There will be individual grow-a-plant projects as well as group projects and special events at the Cabell County Public Library.

HAL SHILL TO THE U.S.S.R.

WVLA Federal Relations Coordinator Hal Shill of West Virginia University will participate in a 10-day exchange visit to the Soviet Union and Finland June 2 - 14. Ten librarians from the Association of College and Research Libraries, led by Maureen Pastine of Washington State University, will visit libraries and librarians in Moscow, Odessa, Leningrad and Helsinki during the visit. Shill will present a paper on Federal Information dissemination activities as part of the exchange process. An Intourist guide will travel with the group throughout its sojourn in the U.S.S.R.

CROWLEY TO FLORIDA

Steve Crowley, who was head of the Dunbar Branch, Kanawha County Library, has left to become director of the Putnam County, Florida Library.



Shown above with the WVLC's Radio Reading Service is David Allen with his guide dog, Nuzzle. In the background is Michelle Triggs, a worker with the Governor's Summer Youth Program. (Photo by Julie Elman-Roche)

PROGRAM DIRECTOR EXPANDS HEARS TO YOU

By Mary Wade Burnside
Staff Writer

The Charleston Gazette

Reprinted by permission of The Charleston Gazette

When Hears to You reader David Allen explained his job to a cabbie, the cabbie asked him, "How do you read if you're blind?"

Allen does more than read. As the program director of Hears to You Radio Reading Service, the West Virginia Library Commission's radio reading service, he has expanded the station's hours from seven to 24 a day since he started working in October 1987.

Less than a year ago, Allen, 24, lived in Clarksburg -- on unemployment. He was a disc jockey in Romney while attending the School for the Blind. Current events have always interested him, he said. "I frequently called here and asked several questions, made a few suggestions."

The service eventually hired Allen with funds provided by Friends of Hears to You. Now he sits at the controls of the radio station, his yellow Lab guide dog, Nuzzle lying nearby. Shortly before the 3 p.m. broadcast, Allen listens to a static-filled report from the weather channel.

Feeling the Braille numbers on his digital clock, Allen repeats the report verbatim to the homes of the 400 special radios that broadcast the station through West Virginia Public Radio. Then he switches on the tape of a volunteer reading the Sunday Gazette-Mail.

Sixty-five volunteers prepared tapes for listeners, reading periodicals from People to Penthouse and the National Enquirer to The Nation.

"We try to match volunteers with material as closely as possible to their interests and liking," Allen says.

The station has 100,000 eligible listeners but the service will have to take a survey this summer to find out exactly how many people are tuned in to the 400 radios.

"We usually like to point out that the blind or people with low vision are eligible," Allen says. "That or some disability that prevents them from holding a book."

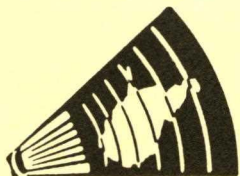
Illiterate people are not eligible for the services. "Illiteracy is considered to be a problem you could have helped, were you willing to go through the required courses of study."

Allen has been blind since he was mistakenly placed in a defective incubator as a baby. The youngest of 10 children on a Harrison County farm, he goaded his sisters into helping him with research papers when he attended local public schools.

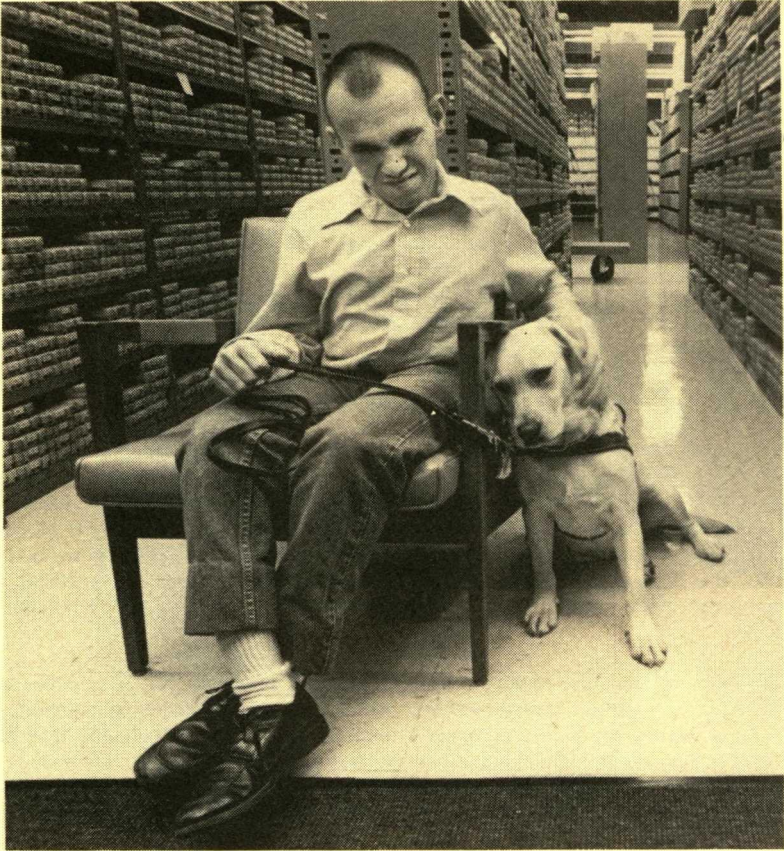
Before that, he attended the Romney School, where he learned the handy-but-cumbersome Braille system. "My Webster's Dictionary comes in 72 volumes," he points out.

Allen much prefers listening to books on cassette, also provided by the Library Commission's Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. "When people read, their eyes get tired. Reading Braille, my fingers got numb," he says.

People who would like to volunteer to read for Hears to You Radio Reading Service may contact coordinator Richard Towne at 1-800-642-8674.



HEARS TO YOU Radio Reading Service



David Allen is shown with his guide dog Nuzzle at the Cultural Center. (Photo by Julie Elman-Roche of The Charleston Gazette.) The article and photos originally appear June 7, 1988.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR WVLA AWARDS

Every year at the WVLA annual conference the association honors those who have served the field of librarianship as well as those who have produced works of outstanding literary merit. The three awards are: The Dora Ruth Parks Award for one who over a number of years has amassed a record of outstanding service to librarianship and libraries in West Virginia; The Certificate of Merit to one who has accumulated significant years to a particular aspect of librarianship and The Literary Merit Award in recognition of outstanding literary merit by a West Virginian or about West Virginia.

If you would like to nominate someone for these three awards please submit a written summary of accomplishments and why this person or persons should receive the award to Chuck Julian, Learning Resources Center, W.Va. Northern Community College, College Square, Wheeling, WV 26003. Nominations should be received no later than September 6, 1988.

VENUE, NEW WEST VIRGINIA-KENTUCKY LITERARY ANTHOLOGY IS OUT

The first issue of Venue, a new West Virginia-Kentucky periodical literary anthology, has appeared this June. Published by the Appalachian Literary League and printed by Charleston's Phoenix Press, Venue 1 is one of the most ambitious such undertakings ever produced in West Virginia, according to Associate Editor Michael Pauley. Pauley, who was editor of the Special Poetry Issue of Wonderful West Virginia in Nov. 1986 and serves as President of West Virginia Writers, says that "Venue 1 contains the best work of established regional writers, new emerging writers, and world-class poets." Venue 1 contains poetry, short fiction, and reviews of current regional books.

Venue 1 contains the work of world famous poet Allen Ginsberg, Pulitzer Prize winner Gary Snyder, and Obie Prize winner Michael McClure, all of whom, while of world stature, have connections to this region. In addition, Venue 1 contains strong work by some of this region's best known and most highly acclaimed writers, such as Shirley Young-Campbell, Bob Snyder, Bob Henry Baber, Paul Curry Steele, Timothy Russell, Joseph Barrett, Colleen Anderson, P.J. Laska, and Kirk Judd. All of the aforementioned are widely published, award-winning, honored West Virginia and Kentucky authors.

Venue 1 fills a much needed role in West Virginia literature. Nearly all of the literary periodicals and magazines that flourished in the last two decades have died, according to Pauley, leaving very few forums and outlets for our native literature. Venue, envisioned as a continuing publishing enterprise, "seeks to provide a much needed outlet for the creative literary work of regional writers, while also attracting the work of nationally prominent authors, bringing," Pauley says, "Our region into the mainstream of American literature."

Venue 1 is a soft cover, perfectly bound 96 page anthology, with Library of Congress in Publishing data, printed spine, and onion skin front and back pieces. It is available for \$6.00, plus 50 cents for postage and handling, by writing to:

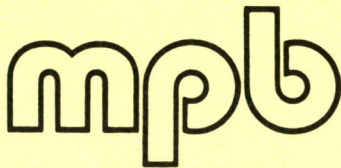
Venue, 4651 Victoria Road, Charleston, WV 25313

Note: This literary anthology will be reviewed in the Fall issue of West Virginia Libraries.

Kid Stuff



The figure above was drawn by Brandon Justice of Huntington. It was submitted by Jim Horan, who heads youth services at the Cabell County Public Library. If you have any poetry written by young patrons, artwork or humorous stories, please submit them to West Virginia Libraries, c/o "Kid Stuff".



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